covering all farmers and all crops (except fruits) in one district of each State/U. T. The draft Pilot Crop Insurance Scheme has since been prepared in consultation with concerned Ministries/agencies and the State Governments/U. Ts. and is under finalisation. Under the PCIS, it is proposed to excluded risks which are of preventable nature.

(d) No, Sir.

Incentive to the Cotton Farming Community

104. SHRI S.S. SURJEWALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of inputs like pesticide, insectisides etc., have gone sky high and production of cotton affected badly in the cotton belt of the country;

(b) if so, the loss occurred on account of this price rise and whether Government have compensated this loss in the form of subsidy/bonus etc. to the cotton farming community;

(c) whether Government is aware that various cotton diseases viz American Diseases and Ball worm, had diminished cotton production and it is less than one half of the normal production per acre; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to check such diseases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) During Kharif 1993-94, by and large, low incidence of American ballworm on cotton has been reported from major cotton growing areas in the country and the cotton production is not likely to be diminished significantly.

(d) The following steps have been taken in this regard :

(i) Farmers have been advised to adopt Integrated Pest Management (IMP) approach which includes use of only recommended pesticides and avoiding spray of insecticide mixtures.

(ii) Under the Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP), the Government is providing 25% subsidy on the cost of pesticides, 50% subsidy on the cost of plant protection equipment, 25% subsidy on the cost of tractor-mounted sprayers.

(iii) Farmers are being provided incentives on the use of pheromone traps and Nuclear Polyhedrosis virus (NPV) etc.

Collaboration between Gujarat and Israel

105. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Collaboration between the State Government of Gujarat and Israel in the areas of fruit, horticulture and wasteland development, have been agreed upon ;

(b) if so, whether Agricultural Export Corporation of Israel have agreed to export various types of fruits etc; and

(c) if so, whether 7 MOUs have been signed with different companies in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. The State of Gujarat through its various corporations has signed MOUs with Israeli companies for necessary collaboration in areas of fruits, horticulture, wasteland development, Green House, Drip Irrigation and water management, cotton development, Grape cultivation, etc.

(b) No, Sir. The Agricultural Export Corporation of Israel has so far agreed to export only grapes from India. Further discussions are being held with the Company consider marketing of sapota, ber, and pomegranate from Gujarat.

(c) Yes, Sir. MOUs have been signed by Gujarat Corporation with the following Israeli Coys :—

(i) The Eisenberg Group.

(ii) Dead Sea Works.

(iii) Agricultural Development Co.

(iv) Agricultural Export Co.

(v) The Elul Group.

(vi) Natafim Yiftah Irrigation Equipment and Drip Systems.

(vii) Tahal Group.

(viii) The Jacob Blaustein Institute.

Assistance from World Bank for Earthquake Victims

106. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA :
SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM :
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank team has visited India to study in depth the problems caused by recent earthquake that struck Osmanabad and Latur district of Maharastra ;

(b) if so, whether the World Bank have provided any kind of assistance to Government ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the manner in which the Central and State Governments propose to spend the assistance provided by the World Bank ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (d) A World Bank Team visited India in November, 1993 to study the possibility of providing assistance for reconstruction in the districts affected by recent earthquake in Maharashtra. The size and type of assistance will be known only after the appraisal report is finalised.

Loss due to recent Floods in U.P.

107. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total amount of loss suffered by U.P. State due to destruction of properties and crops by the recent floods there ; and

(b) the total assistance sought by the State Government from the Centre in this regard and that actually provided by the Centre ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) The total amount of loss suffered Uttar Pradesh due to destruction of properties and crops by the recent floods as reported by the Government of Uttar Pradesh is as follows :

Statement

(Rs. in crore)

(1) Damage to public properties such as roads, bridges, Govt. buildings, water and electricity supply system, irrigation flood protection works, schools hospitals	211.34
(2) Loss of crops . . .	402.48
(3) Damage caused to private houses	126.15

(b) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has submitted a memorandum seeking Central assistance of Rs. 211.24 crores. Under the existing scheme of financing relief expenditure, Government of India had released one instalment of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund amounting to Rs. 13.32 crores during the current year. Two instalments amounting to Rs. 26.64 crore due in 1993-94 were released in advance during 1992-93.

Spoiling Edible Oils by National Dairy Development Board

108. DR. BAPU KALDATE :
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of tons of edible oils stored by the National Dairy Development Board for years together got spoiled and had become unfit for consumption ;